

To: Wick, Robert[rwick@blm.gov]
Cc: Butts, Sally[sbutts@blm.gov]; Nikki Moore[nmoore@blm.gov]; Fisher, Timothy[tfisher@blm.gov]; Mali, Peter[pmali@blm.gov]
From: Sippel, James
Sent: 2017-05-22T12:23:00-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: Re: GSENM Executive Summary and Initial Data Request
Received: 2017-05-22T12:23:09-04:00

Thanks Bob, similar points to those I just sent up. Bob further described that all WSAs have characteristics despite their suitability recommendation, the study was an EIS, and included the inventory process that continues under 201 but does not result in WSAs. A blend of our responses would be good.

James

James Sippel
 Wilderness Specialist
 BLM representative to Arthur Carhart Interagency Wilderness Center (WO-410)
 406-243-4625

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 9:25 AM, Wick, Robert <rwick@blm.gov> wrote:

Here are some suggestions overall looks good

The BLM designated all WSAs under the authority of sections 202 and 603 of FLPMA which directed that BLM public lands be included among federal lands for wilderness consideration under the Wilderness Act of 1964. Sec. 603 of FLPMA directed the BLM to inventory its lands and, within 15 years of the law's enactment, identify and recommend areas for potential wilderness designation by Congress. In carrying out Sec. 603, the BLM broke the process into three phases: inventory, study, and reporting. The BLM completed the wilderness inventory phase by 1980. Those areas that met the inventory criteria became WSAs. Between 1980 and 1991, BLM performed the study phase, which consisted of Bureau staff comparing a WSA's wilderness values to other uses and values through an EIS process and determining whether a given WSA should be recommended for wilderness designation. The reporting phase consisted of BLM submitting its recommendations through the Secretary to the President, which it did by submitting statewide wilderness reports to the President in 1991. The President, in turn, sent recommendations to Congress in 1993. All WSAs are managed to protect wilderness characteristics until Congress decides whether or not they should be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System as Wilderness Areas. Settlement of the lawsuit, *Utah v. Norton*, clarified that BLM will not designate new WSAs or manage additional lands under the authority of Section 603 of FLPMA. This settlement and several court cases have affirmed that the BLM still has the responsibility to inventory wilderness characteristics as a resource value under section 201 of FLPMA, and consider management/protection of this resource under Section 202 of FLPMA in the RMP process.

On Mon, May 22, 2017 at 7:52 AM, Butts, Sally <sbutts@blm.gov> wrote:

James or Bob,

Does Nikki's suggested response to Randy (who's coordinating the Executive Order on Monuments review) sound good regarding WSAs? Are we missing anything?

Thanks for your help, Sally

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From: **Moore, Nikki** <nmoore@blm.gov>
Date: Mon, May 22, 2017 at 8:54 AM
Subject: Fwd: GSENM Executive Summary and Initial Data Request
To: Peter Mali <pmali@blm.gov>
Cc: "McAlear, Christopher" <cmcalear@blm.gov>, Sally Butts <sbutts@blm.gov>, Timothy Fisher <tjfisher@blm.gov>

Hi Peter,
Randy has a follow up question. Here is my recommended answer:

The BLM designated all WSAs under the authority of sections 202 and 603 of FLPMA. Sec. 603 of FLPMA directed the BLM to inventory its lands and, within 15 years of the law's enactment, identify parcels that met the definition of "wilderness" as described in the Wilderness Act of 1964. In carrying out Sec. 603, the BLM broke the process into three phases: inventory, study, and reporting. The BLM completed the wilderness inventory phase by 1980. Between 1980 and 1991, BLM performed the study phase, which consisted of Bureau staff comparing a WSA's wilderness values to other land uses and coming up with a recommendation as to whether a given WSA was suitable to be managed as wilderness. The recommendation phase consisted of BLM submitting its recommendations to the President, which it did by sending statewide wilderness reports to the President in 1991. The President, in turn, sent recommendations to Congress in 1993. Settlement of the lawsuit, *Utah v. Norton*, clarified that BLM will not designate new WSAs. These areas are managed to protect wilderness characteristics until Congress decides whether or not they should be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System as wilderness areas.

Nikki Moore
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From: **Bowman, Randal** <randal_bowman@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, May 22, 2017 at 8:31 AM
Subject: Re: GSENM Executive Summary and Initial Data Request
To: Nikki Moore <nmoore@blm.gov>

Nikki, one followup question - does BLM have more than one process for designating wilderness study areas, or were all done by administrative review, recommendation to the President and transmittal to Congress? I've tried to find this on your web site with no luck.

On Fri, May 19, 2017 at 7:57 PM, Nikki Moore <nmoore@blm.gov> wrote:

Hi Randy,

We have completed our review of the initial responses provided in response to the April 26, 2017 Executive Order 13792 and initial data request. The executive summary and detailed response for the requested items are attached and will be uploaded to the respective Google Drive folder for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in addition to the supporting data and documents.

Per your request, I have also attached the additional information in a word document below and will shared the google docs that provide the supporting data and information.

Please let me know if you have any questions.
Hope you have a great weekend!

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Sally R. Butts, J.D., Acting Division Chief
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